the Advance head. For this work a sum of Rs 5 lakhs has been provided in the ensuing year's budget under Advances.

The investigation for the improvement of the other parts of the town is in progress, and a sum of Rs ·10 of a lakh has been provided in the budget for its continuance. The provision for next year under the Town Planning Scheme will thus be Rs 7 lakhs distributed under the following heads .—

Tampanoor valley Rs 5 lakhs, house sites on both sides of the Avenue Road from Kaudiyar to Vellayambalam Rs ·50 of a lakh, both of which are provided for under Advances, and Rs 1·50 lakhs charged to Revenue.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

28. *Rubber Factory.*—Last year, it was stated that the opening of a Government Rubber Factory at Chackai, Trivandrum, was then in contemplation. The preliminary investigations were conducted by Mr. Helen of Lakshmi Rubber Mills, Karachi, who has since been appointed as Engineer and Rubber Expert. The Factory buildings have been completed and the machinery required, purchased and erected. The factory is likely to commence work in a couple of weeks. The house will be interested to be informed in this connection that the machinery required for the factory was purchased on compensation basis, Travancore coir yarns and other articles, being exchanged to the extent of the value of the machinery ordered.

The capital outlay on the Rubber Factory at the end of the current year is expected to amount to Rs 3·77 lakhs. As the factory will be working in full swing next year a sum of Rs 75,000 has been provided for the purchase of raw materials and Rs 15,000 for establishment and contingent charges. A capital non-recurring expenditure of Rs 10,000 has also been provided for. It is hoped that the receipts for the next year would amount to Rs 50,000.

Clay Refining Factory.

29. As a result of the investigations conducted by Government in consultation with Ceramic Experts such as Mr. Deb of Calcutta, Mr. Doger Sing of the Benares Hindu University and Mr. Roy of United Provinces on the possibilities of opening a Clay Refinery and Porcelain Factory in Travancore, it has been disclosed that there are large areas of land in the Quilon Division, particularly the places adjoining the Kanjirode lake and extensive areas in the Perinad Pakuthy, Quilon Taluk, containing large deposits of excellent China clay, suitable for the manufacture of high class porcelain. In view of the possibilities of using the bye-products in the process of

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